

**Claims**

1. A Hp-Hb complex (haptoglobin-haemoglobin complex) or a part thereof or a mimic thereof being operably linked to a substance, wherein the Hp-Hb complex or the part thereof or the mimic thereof is capable of binding a CD163 receptor and/or a CD163 receptor variant.
2. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, in a purified form.
3. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, in an isolated form.
4. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, wherein the complex is dimeric.
5. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, wherein the complex is multimeric.
6. The Hp-Hb part or mimic according to claim 1, capable of binding to a region in one or more of the SRCR domains I-IX of the CD163 receptor.
7. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, wherein the substance comprises a medicament.
8. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 7, wherein the medicament is selected from antibiotics and anticancer drugs.
9. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 7, wherein the medicament is selected from anti-HIV drugs.
10. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, wherein the substance comprises a gene.
11. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 10, wherein the gene comprises a nucleic acid, such as PNA, LNA, DNA or RNA.
12. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 10, wherein the gene comprises cDNA.

13. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 10, wherein the gene is encoding CD163.

5 14. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, wherein the substance comprises an antibody or an antigen.

15. The Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to any of the claims 1-14, wherein the substance comprises a tracer or a marker.

16. The Hp-Hb as mimic, according to any of the claims, wherein the mimic is an antibody.

17. A method of treatment of an individual comprising administration of the Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof according to claim 1, the method comprising the steps of:

iv) providing a Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof as defined in claim 1 capable of binding to the CD163 variant,

v) operably linking a substance as defined in the claims 1-16 to the Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof,

vi) administering the substance operably linked to the Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof to an individual in need thereof.

18. A composition comprising a Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof, or a mimic thereof as defined in claim 1.

19. A CD163 variant capable of binding at least one haptoglobin-haemoglobin (Hp-Hb) complex.

20. The CD163 variant according to claim 19, wherein the at least one Hp-Hb complex is dimeric.

21. The CD163 variant according to claim 19, wherein the at least one Hp-Hb complex is multimeric.

22. The CD163 variant according to claim 19, comprising the SRCR domains I-IX of the CD 163 receptor, or a variant thereof.

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37. A medicament comprising at least one Hp-Hb complex, or a part thereof or a mimic thereof as defined in claim 1.

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